Setting up of Water and Land Management Institute in the North Eastern Region

2738. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the North Eastern Council is going to set up a Water and Land Management Institute (WALMI) in the North Eastern region;

(b) whether the proposed institute will be located either at Beltola or Moloybari in Assam in view of the existing facilities for the institute in both the places; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) In the Seventh Five Year Plan of the North Eastern Council, there is a proposal for setting up a Regional Institute of Water and Land Management in the Norh Eastern Region.

(b) and (c) The project is at the stage of formulation.

Shifting of propellent unit from Andhra Pradesh to Madhya Pradesh

2739. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposed Rs. 100 crores propellent unit of the Defence Ministry near Warangal in Andhra Pradesh is being shifted to Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) Decision regarding the location of the proposed propellent factory has not yet been taken by the Government.

Dumping of Radio-Active wastes into Periyar by the Indian Rare Earth Limited

2740 SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state·

(a) whether Government are aware that about 9356 billion bequrels of radioactive elements, including thorium, uranium, mesothorium, radium etc. from the Indian Rare Earth Ltd., Alwaye Arabian were being dumped into the river Periyar and the Sea during the period 1953|1970; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to prevent the damage done to the eco-system of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCTAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The dischage of such a small amount of radioactivity over such a long period has no adverse ecological effect.

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

2741. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United States of America is suggesting to India to sign a Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is Government's reaction there'o?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Even though the NPT does not adequately address the problem of vertical proliferation, the U.S. Government obviously attaches great importance to the Treaty.